FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 4, 1963

1

On December 3, 1963, Mr. LAWRENCE V. MEYERS was interviewed at his place of business, the Ero Manufacturing Company, 714 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois, by SAs RICHARD B. LEE and GEORGE H. PARFET. MEYERS advised that he is employed as Sales Manager of the Sporting Goods Division of this firm and resides at 3950 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, with his wife and two children.

Mr. MEYERS advised that during the course of his business contacts he has been required to make frequent trips to Dallas, Texas, over the past several years. On one occasion approximately five years ago he met JACK RUBY at RUBY's night club, and since that time he has visited in RUBY's night club on numerous occasions.

He advised that on November 20, 1963, he flew to Dallas, Texas, where on the night of the 20th he stayed at the Ramada Motel and checked into the Cabana Motel on the morning of November 21, 1963. He stated he pursued his normal business affairs that date and in the evening following dinner he went to JACK RUBY's Carousel Club. Mr. MEYERS stated that on this trip to Dallas he was accompanied by Miss JEAN WEST who he had known casually as a resident of 20 East Delaware Street, Chicago, Illinois. He described Miss WEST as a "rather dumb, but accommodating broad." He further pointed out that his association with Miss WEST is not known to members of his family or to his business associates. When he and Miss WEST arrived at the Carousel Club he introduced her to the owner, JACK RUBY, and RUBY joined them at their table, buying Miss WEST two champagne cocktails. He stated that during the course of their stay at the club on that evening the conversation revolved primarily around show personalities, the acts currently appearing at the club and other items of topical interest.

Copies destroyed - dup of 30 r in rep of 12/14/63 44-1639-2433

On 12/3/63 at Chicago, Illinois File# CG 44-645

SAs RICHARD B. LEE and
by GEORGE H. PARFET:ljf Date dictated 12/3/63

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED
SERIALIZED ..... FILED
FBI — DALLAS

This document contains neither rec... of the FBI. It is the ... is loaned to your agency; it ...

V. 22

He advised that he and Miss WEST remained at the Carousel Club for approximately one hour, returning to their motel at about 11:00 p.m. Mr. MEYERS stated while at the Carousel Club he had invited RUBY to join him at the Cabana Motel for a drink with him and his brother, EDWARD MEYER, and EDWARD's wife, who were attending a convention in Dallas. He said that shortly thereafter JACK RUBY came to the motel where he was introduced to his brother and his wife. RUBY remained at the motel for only a few minutes before he left, saying that he had to return to his club.

Mr. MEYERS stated that his next contact with JACK RUBY was at approximately 10:30 p.m., Saturday, November 23, 1963, when RUBY telephoned him at the Cabana Motel. He said that at this time RUBY seemed greatly distrubed over the President's assassination, and that this feeling was compounded by the fact that, according to RUBY, the Colony Club and the Theatre Lounge, which are operated by ABE and BARNEY WEINSTEIN, were remaining open for business in spite of the fact that all other clubs had closed out of respect for the President. MEYERS said that RUBY asked "what do you think of this awful thing?" and "I've got to do something about this." MEYERS stated that although he did not give it any thought at the time he does not now know upon reflection whether RUBY was referring to the WEINSTEIN brothers clubs remaining open or whether he was referring to the assassination of President KENNEDY. At this time JACK RUBY invited MEYERS to join him for a cup of coffee, but MEYERS declined the invitation and in return invited RUBY to come to the motel to talk. RUBY in turn declined the invitation and at that time it was agreed that they would meet the following evening for dinner. The conversation ended on this note and MEYERS has not been in further contact with JACK RUBY.

Mr. MEYERS stated that on Sunday, November 24, 1963, he drove to Mc Kinney, Texas, where a factory of his firm is located and then continued on to Sherman, Texas, where he intended to play golf. He said that while en route he had the car radio on and heard the news that RUBY had killed LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the Dallas Police Station. MEYERS stated

that his reaction was one of shock and disbelief that RUBY could actually have been involved in such a deed.

MEYERS stated that upon his return to Dallas he debated whether or not to contact the Dallas Police concerning his recent association with RUBY, but decided that in the light of the apparent hectic activities then ensuing at the police station it would be better if he did not do so. MEYERS also stated that he made no effort to contact RUBY.

MEYERS stated that his observations and associations with RUBY over the past five years have culminated in some rather definite ideas as to RUBY's personality. He stated that he regards RUBY as a person who is well aware of his lack of formal education and who, by association with individuals who are well-educated and/or well-respected, tries to inflate his own position. MEYERS explained that on many occasions RUBY would drop names of well-known entertainers, managers, and agents, or would make a point of being seen in the company of a public official or respected member of the community. He seemingly felt that by engaging in these activities he would himself, gain stature and importance. He stated that RUBY has always impressed him as a gregarious individual who genuinely liked to be with people and in order to promote this need and to encourage business at his club would pass out drink cards freely to any group with which he came in contact. He stated that although he, MEYERS, was never introduced to any police officers in Dallas RUBY on many occasions would identify various individuals in the club as being members of the Dallas Police Department. He stated that through past conversations with RUBY he is of the impression that RUBY was well-known to most of the members of the Dallas Police Department.

MEYERS continued that he does not consider RUBY to be an emotionally stable person and that RUBY has always been very emphatic concerning his likes and dislikes. He stated that RUBY seldom, if ever, takes a middle of the road attitude, but would rather have a strong leaning toward one or the other extreme. MEYERS advised that he feels JACK RUBY would

usually act on the spur of the moment, being quick to either help or to fight. In this regard he commented that JACK RUBY had seemed rather perturbed on his last three or four visits and in fact, poured out his troubles to MEYERS regarding other clubs that were in competition to RUBY's. Specifically RUBY mentioned that the Actors Unions had caused them to quit engaging in amateur nights wherein girls with no experience would try out as strippers in the night clubs.

MEYERS stated that RUBY had stopped this practice but that the clubs operated by the WEINSTEIN brothers had continued to do this and that he had hoped he could get the union managements to change their rule and allow this practice to continue. Regarding RUBY being "quick to fight" he said [illegible] he did not mean physically, inasmuch as he had never seen JACK RUBY in a physical fight, but was referring to RUBY's quick and firm convictions.

He stated that he had never seen RUBY with a gun but on one occasion when RUBY had closed the club, MEYERS accompanied him to his automobile where he placed the nights proceeds in the trunk of the car. Something was said at the time which gave MEYERS the impression that RUBY sometimes maintained a gun in the trunk of his car because of the sums of money that he was required to remove from the club.

Regarding his general association with RUBY he stated that to his knowledge RUBY drank very little, was a "health nut" and had a deep interest in physical fitness. He said in this regard he at one time had obtained a set of barbells for RUBY's personal use. He continued that he did not know of any close friends or associates of RUBY's, but mentioned that he had met GEORGE SENATOR in RUBY's place of business on several occasions. He advised he does not know if SENATOR had any official connection with the club or not. He stated that he can place no credence in the newspaper queries that RUBY had any connection or acquaintance whatsoever with LEE HARVEY OSWALD or any Chicago hoodlums. He stated that regarding the latter he is sure that knowing MEYERS was from Chicago he would have at some time or another

dropped the name of someone engaged in underworld activities in the Chicago area in hopes of enhancing his own level of importance in MEYERS' eyes. MEYERS also said that although he does not know anything about JACK RUBY's political affiliations RUBY has never given him any reason whatsoever to think that he has any communistic tendencies or interests.

He said that he had formed the opinion that RUBY shot LEE HARVEY OSWALD for one of two reasons, "that RUBY sincerely felt he was ridding the world of vermin in shooting OSWALD" or that he "had elected himself executioner because of his deep sympathy for the President's family."